



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.3447 | FAX (517) 373.5849
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/birkholz/

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Contact: Amanda Price
517-373-3447

Sen. Birkholz: the key to education is early childhood development

LANSING – Sen. Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Township, issued the following statement regarding the annual State of the State address:

“I was pleased to hear the governor embrace the issue of early childhood education tonight during her address. It is a critical component to an overall education and sets the groundwork for Michigan’s future. From birth through age five is most crucial to a child’s learning process and are where the foundation for success is laid.

“We need to continue our efforts to engage young children in learning and get them excited about school. Before we worry about scholarships to get students into college, we need to help them get through high school and graduate. Focusing on early childhood development is the key to improving success in school, increasing graduation rates and preparing our students for the jobs of the future.”